

Executive Registry
10-16733

AMERICAN

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI

SUBJECT : Gordon Gray's Views on NSC Procedure

I think it will be of interest to you that Gordon Gray expressed himself rather vigorously at last Friday's Planning Board on how the NSC's procedure should be more responsive to critical problems brought to its attention. He clearly had in mind primarily your intelligence briefings, pointing out that it was your remarks to the Council on the Sudan which led him to stir up some action. He went on to say that you had now warned twice about Iran, and that the NSC should "do something" about such matters. In his view the present rather cumbersome NSC machinery should not be allowed to stand in the way. I mention the above because it seems clear that Gordon intends to follow through on your briefings when appropriate, which will give them even greater impact.

His expressed intention to put on the NSC agenda every few weeks an important topic for discussion, as opposed to NSC consideration of the frozen language of policy drafts, will also offer greater opportunities for intelligence to make its weight felt. At the Planning Board level, for example, we have already been able to make a substantial contribution on the first two "discussion" topics, the Near East and Moroccan bases, largely by presenting the conclusions of recent timely NIE's.

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ROBERT AMORY, JR.

(EXECUTIVE)

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